

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Examiner's Objections.

Claims 1-3, 11-26 were withdrawn from consideration. The objections to the drawings have been noted. The drawings have now been amended and corrected drawings are submitted with this application.

The Examiner has noted that withdrawn Claims 9 and 10 depend on a cancelled Claim 8. Newly presented Claim 27, which is substantially the same as previously presented Claim 26, which, in turn, was originally presented as Claim 8, is hereby offered for examination. Claims 9 and 10 now depend on this claim, rather than on a cancelled claim. If it was the Examiner's intention to examine and/or to allow these claims, they are presented herewith. If it was not the Examiner's intent to examine these claims, then those claims in turn should be cancelled.

APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OBJECTIONS

Referring now to Claims 4 and 5, the expression "separated by a working clearance from a spindle" is believed to be correct. This is because the spindle forms the portion about which the pad rotates. If the spindle were not separated by a working clearance from the pad, the pad would not rotate freely. On the other hand, if it were separated by much more than the working clearance, then the pad would not be precisely located.

The Examiner's observation about the lack of support in the original specification, claims or drawings is noted. This is believed to be erroneous. At least by the showing in Figs. 3 and 4, as well as the description, there is no doubt as to the manner in which the unit of the invention operates. The spindle protrudes axially into the pad, but does not extend all the way through the pad, since then it would interfere with the painting operation. This is believed to be self-explanatory in view of the above remarks.

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to use consistent terminology. It is believed that the expressions concerning the "edge" and the "margin" are now used consistently and confusion should be avoided.

Regarding Claim 6, it is allegedly unclear with respect to what orientation the term "axially" is used. The axial expression refers to the axis of rotation of the pad. The portion of the pad that contacts the wall is referred to as the axially outer portion, and the portion toward the handle is referred to as the axially inner portion. This is distinguished from the "radial" direction.

It is believed that these amendments have now overcome the objections set forth by the Examiner. Consideration of Claims 27, 9 and 10 is hereby requested. If these claims are not allowable, the Examiner may cancel them.

The applicant has amended Figs. 9 and 9A in accordance with the request of the Examiner.

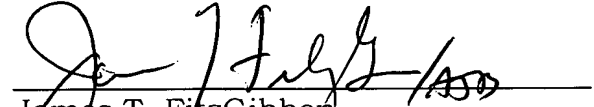
The applicant has diligently attempted to place this case in a condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or comments he may contact the applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number (312) 609 - 7830.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/31/04


James T. FitzGibbon
Reg. No. 20,592

Vedder Price Kaufman & Kammholz
222 N. LaSalle Street
Chicago IL 60601
(312) 609 7830

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant attaches hereto a revised sheet of drawings for Figs. 9 and 9A.